

policy" and the measures and mode adopted for its implementation to facilitate the streamline functioning of the textiles industries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) The Government have, inter alia, taken the following measures for the rehabilitation of sick textile mills and workers of closed mills in the country:-

- Setting up of Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) to provide interim relief to the workers rendered jobless due permanent/partial closure of a textile mill;
- Setting up of a Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to enquire into the working of sick industrial companies and to prepare and sanction, as appropriate, schemes for revival of sick mills.

[English]

#### **Silk Projects**

5454. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the authorities responsible for implementing the Silk Projects in States;
- (b) the number of Silk Projects implemented during the last three years;
- (c) the States where these Projects have been completed during the same period; and
- (d) the total number of district level Committees set up for the purpose so far in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) The projects/programmes for the development of sericulture are primarily formulated and implemented by the State Sericulture Departments. However, in case of projects undertaken by the Central Silk Board (CSB) with the concerned State(s), the authorities responsible for implementing such projects is the Central Silk Board alone if the project is fully funded by the CSB and if the project is jointly funded by the State with the CSB, implementation is jointly by the CSB and the concerned State.

(b) and (c) Apart from various schemes, the silk projects implemented by the CSB in collaboration with the States during the last 3 years have been the National Sericulture Project in five traditional States and 12 non-traditional States, the Poorvanchal Sericulture Development Project in Uttar Pradesh, the North-Eastern Action Plan and the Muga Seed Development Project in the North-Eastern states. Of these projects, the National Sericulture Project has ended on 31.12.96.

(d) Besides the District Level Committees set up by certain States like West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, there is also a Committee to review the progress of schemes implemented through the DRDA fund for each District Rural Development Agency.

[Translation]

#### **Top Exporters**

5455. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of exporters or Export Houses which have exported garments, textiles, cotton and synthetic yarn to the European countries during each of the last three years and the places from where these exports were made with the value thereof;
- (b) the details of twenty top exporters indicating their names, addresses and business turnover;
- (c) whether some inquiries have been initiated against some exporters in the European countries;
- (d) if so, whether the Government propose to discuss this issue with the Governments of European countries and seek their intervention keeping in view of the interests of exporters; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) The data on exports are not compiled according to exporters/export houses.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Coffee Processing Unit in U.P.**

5456. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to start a coffee processing unit in Uttar Pradesh by the Coffee Board; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Export of Banned Items/Biodiversity Plants**

5457. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYYA:

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding theft of India's biodiversity/medicinal plants from various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government have issued instructions during 1994 to ban export of 46 plants;

- (d) if so, the details of these plants;
- (e) whether some private sector companies are still exporting the banned plants and violating the rules; and
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government to check such thefts from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) There have been some reports in the newspapers stating that the wealth of India's forests and fields, its rich biodiversity is/are being plundered by foreign companies and their agents.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The Government had prohibited export of 46 plants, plant portions and their derivatives, vide Public Notice No. 47(PN)/92-97 dated 30 March 1994. This order has been amended from time to time. Under the current Export-Import Policy, the export of the following Plants, plant portions and their derivatives and extracts obtained from the wild are prohibited, namely, (1) Aconitum species, (2) Atropa species, (3) Aristolochia species, (4) Angiopteris species, (5) Arundinaria Jaunsarensia, (6) Balanophora species, (7) Colchicum luteum (Hirantutya), (8) Commiphora whightii, (9) Coptis species, (10) Drosera species, (11) Gentiana Kurroo (Kuru, Kutki), (12) Gloriosa superba, (13) Gnetum species, (14) Iphignia indica, (15) Meconopsis betonicifolia, (16) Nardostachys species (Jatamansi), (17) Osmunda species, (18) Rhododendron species, (19) Physochlaina praealta (Bajarbang), (20) Praltia serpumlia, (21) Rheum emodi (Dolu), (22) Berberis aristata (Indian barberry; Rasvat), (23) Acorus species, (24) Artemisia species, (25) Coscinium fenestratum (Calumba wood), (26) Costus speciosas (Keu, Kust), (27) Didymocarpus pedicellata, (28) Dolomiaea pedicellata, (29) Ephedra species, (30) Gynocardia odorata (Chaulmogri), (31) Hydnocarpus species, (32) Hyocymus niger (Broseword), (33) Strychnos potatorum (Nirmali), (34) Swertia chirata (Charayatah), (35) Urginea species, (36) Beddomes Cycad (Cycas beddomel), (37) Blue vanda (vanda oerulea), (38) Kuth (Saussurea lappa), (39) Ladies slipper orchid (Paphiopedilum species), (40) Pitcher plant (Nepenthes khasiana), (41) Red vanda (Renanthera imschootiana), (42) Rauwolfia serpentina (Sarpagandha), (43) Ceropegia species, (44) Frerea indica (Shindal Mankundi), (45) Podophyllum hexandrum (emodi) (Indian Podophyllum), (46) Cyathea species (Tree Ferns), (47) Cycadaceae species (Cycads), (48) Dioscorea deltoidea (Elephant's foot), (49) Euphorbia species (Euphorbias), (50) Orchidaceae species (Orchids), (51) Pterocarpus santalinus (Red Sanders), (52) taxus wallichiana (Common Yew or Birmi leaves), and (53) Aquilaria malaccensis (Agarwood). Plants and plant portions, derivatives and extracts (including value added herbal formulations) of the cultivated varieties of the species mentioned above (excluding Pterocarpus santalinus (Red Sanders) will be allowed for export subject to production of a Certificate of Cultivations from Regional Deputy Director (Wildlife), or Chief Conservator of Forests or Divisional Forest Officers of the State concerned from where these plants and plant portions have been procured. However, in respect of

cultivated varieties of the species mentioned at serial nos. (36) to (53) above, a CITES Permit for export will also be required.

(e) and (f) Government has no evidence of it. However, a national legislation on biodiversity is under preparation which includes regulating access to and transfer of genetic material of the country.

#### Research on Silk

5458. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Research and Development division of Central Silk Board has developed a high quality silk;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the silk grower farmers to this; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to save the interests of growers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) In order to produce good quality silk in the country, the Research & Development Institutes of the Central Silk Board (CSB) have developed quality bivoltine silkworm hybrids and improved cross breeds. The field trials of these new hybrids are under progress and the response of the farmers and reelers to these new hybrids in Karnataka has been encouraging.

(c) In order to protect the interests of the silk grower farmers certain support systems are being provided by the CSB and the States such as setting up of Seed Farms and Silkworm Seed Production Centres to ensure availability of adequate seeds to growers. Besides, traditional sericultural States operate bidding cocoon markets while most non-traditional States have support systems for purchase of cocoons.

[Translation]

#### Textile Mills in Maharashtra

5459. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of textile mills in Maharashtra alongwith their production capacity;
- (b) the number of employees working in these mills during the last three years and the number of employees who have been rendered jobless as a result of closure of the textile mills during this period; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for the revival of the sick units of the State and provide employment to those employees who have been rendered jobless as a result of the closure of textile mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) As on 31.12.1996, there were 182 cotton/man-made Fibre Textile Mills with a capacity of 5092250 spindles, 36668 rotors and 41265 looms in Maharashtra.